



CALFED  
BAY-DELTA  
PROGRAM

1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155  
Sacramento, California 95814

(916) 657-2666  
FAX (916) 654-9780

Pending

## Memorandum

Date: December 5, 1996

To: Larry Gage, Chief  
Operations Control Office  
Division of Operations & Maintenance

From: Stein Buer *SMR 12/5*  
Technical Services Branch  
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Subject: Support for DSMI Recalibration

This is to confirm my request that Nirmala Mahadevan be assigned to work with the Suisun Marsh Branch, Environmental Services Office on a three-month effort to recalibrate DWRDSM1, Suisun Marsh Version. The majority of the work would be conducted in her office at the JOC, with appropriate coordination with Suisun Marsh Branch staff. It is anticipated that there would be an initial 2-3 week full-time effort, followed by part-time effort over the remaining 9-10 weeks. The recalibration effort will be directed by Kamyar Guivetchi. The proposed starting date is December 9, 1996. Your support for this effort is very much appreciated.

### Background

I am requesting this effort in order to support the needs of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. In recent CALFED coordination and information meetings USBR and USGS staff have made the case that DSM1 model output does not match very well with data collected by USGS using its Ultrasonic Velocity Meter system. Instantaneous errors of up to 50% were cited. Although tidally averaged flow errors would be much less, the concerns raised by USGS and USBR regarding the accuracy of DSM1 must be taken very seriously in the context of proposed modeling for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. I concluded that, given the uncertainty over when DSM2 would be available and generally accepted for conducting production runs, the most prudent response would be to immediately initiate a short-term

---

#### CALFED Agencies

##### California

The Resources Agency  
Department of Fish and Game  
Department of Water Resources  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
State Water Resources Control Board

##### Federal

Environmental Protection Agency  
Department of the Interior  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Department of Commerce  
National Marine Fisheries Service

Larry Gage  
December 5, 1996  
Page Two

effort to recalibrate DSM1 with the UVM data and available channel geometry data. This should provide CALFED with a reasonable assurance that by early next year we will have at least one of these models running which has been calibrated to the available field data.

This effort will likely also benefit existing programs which make use of DSM1, in that an improved predictive accuracy may extend both the usefulness and life of this valuable tool.

cc: Kathlin Johnson  
George Barnes  
Francis Chung  
Randy Brown  
Kamyar Guivetchi  
Jim Spence  
Guy Masier

bcc: Lester Snow  
Steve Yaeger

SBuer: km

c:\office\kathy\gage